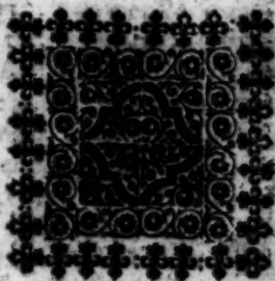


AN ACT
OF THE
CONVENTION
OF
ESTATES:

For putting the Kingdome into a Posture of
DEFENCE,

For strengthening the ARMIE,
AND
Providing of ARMES and AMMUNITION
to the Kingdome,



J. W. Skene

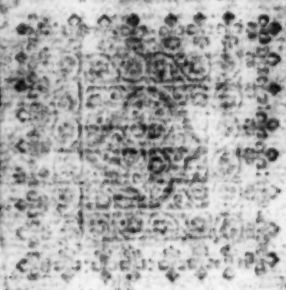
EDINBURGH:
Printed by Evan Tyler, Printer to the Kings
most Excellent Majestie. 1644.

AN ACT OF THE CONVENTION OF ESTATES

For putting the Kingdom into a better
DEFENCE

For strengthening the Armies
AND

Providing of Armies and Ammunition
to the Kings



Printed by E. Smith, Printer to the King
and Parliament, 1644.
LONDON.

AT
EDINBURGH,

The first day of FEBRUARY.

1644.



Hereas by many laudable Acts of Parliament all the subjects of the Kingdome are ordained to be sufficiently armed, and to be in readinesse for compeſeing intestine Inſurrections, and oppoſing forraigne Invaſion, Like as the Eſtates of this Kingdome at their laſt meeting in September 1643. taking to their conſideration the imminent dangers of the true Proteſtant Religion, his Maieſties Perſon and Authority, and Peace of his Kingdomes, by multitudes of Papiſts, Prelates, and their adherents, now in Arms in *England* and *Ireland*, and the occaſion thereby given, not onely to the publike enemies of Religion abroad, but even to any diſaffected perſons at home, to labour (ſo farre as in them lyes) to ſubvert the Religion and Peace now happily eſtabliſhed in this Kingdome, Did finde it neceſſary that all meanes be ſpeedily uſed for preventing the practices of ſuch, for preſerving of the Peace, and keeping of his Maieſties Subjects in a dutifull obedience to the Lawes and publike Judicatories, and in Chriſtian unitie amongſt themſelves, And did therefore ordaine that the Kingdome ſhould be preſently put into a Poſture of Defence, and did nominate and chooſe certain perſons to be Colonels of Horſe and Foot, and appoint Committees within the ſeverall Sheriſſdomes and bounds of this Kingdome to that effect: With power to them to take ſpeciall triall, and make perfect Liſts of the whole ſenſible perſons betwixt fixtie and ſixteene within their Shires, for Foot or Horſe, and to have a ſpeciall care to ſee them provided with Armes.

And the Eſtates now preſently conveened, conſidering that the deſolations of *Ireland*, the blood-ſhed in *England*, and dangers of this

Kingdome do daily increase, which hath moved this Kingdome to set forth an Armie in pursuance of the Covenant, and whereby also great numbers of Arms and Ammunition are taken forth of the Countrey: In regard whereof, and to the effect this Kingdome may be enabled to suppress all Inteltine Commotions, recruite the Armie sent forth (if need bee) and defend themselves against forraign Invasion, The saids Estates have Statute and Ordained, and heereby Statutes and Ordaines the Colonells and Committees of Warre foresaid appointed in each Shire to Muster all the sensible persons within the Shire upon one day, every Parish within some part of the bounds of their severall Presbyteries, to be designed by the saids Committees and Colonels, by whom some are to be appointed to make up the List of the saids sensible persons armed and unarmed: so as it may be knowne that none shall borrow Armes from others, and how many, and what sort of Arms are wanting, and to be provided for every Shire: The Musters of these besouth Dee, to be betwixt and the last of February next to come, and the report thereof to the Committee of Estates betwixt and the 15. day of March thereafter: And the Musters of these benorth Dee, to be betwixt and the 10. day of March, and the report to the Committee betwixt and the last day of the said Moneth. And that the Barrows within the bounds *respective* foresaids, make their Musters within themselves, conforme to the former Act of Convention anent the Posture of Defence, and make their reports accordingly. And if after report it shall be found by the Committee of Estates that there are more Arms wanting then are sent out with the Armie, that the Shire in that case shall onely be obliged to furnish so many Armes as are sent forth: and the Committees of Warre are to distribute the saids Armes among these who want, in the most equall and least prejudiciall way they think expedient. And the saids persons to whom they shall distribute the same shall be obliged to receive and pay for the saids Armes, under the pain of payment of the double of the price of the same.

And it is hereby declared, That whether the Musters be perfected or not, at the dayes *respective* foresaids (which the Estates do seriously recommend to the care of the saids Colonels and Committees) yet at the Dyets above specified, assigned for report, they shall be obliged to send some persons to the Committee of Estates with Money, or suretie for providing as many Arms, *viz.* Muskets, Picks, Swords and Pistols, as they have sent forth in this present Expedition, together with three pound weight of Powder, three pound weight of Ball, and six pound weight of Match for every Musket; or else give assurance at the said day of report, that they shall provide the same themselves betwixt and a competent day to be assigned by the Committee of Estates.

And that there may be a sufficient number of trained men, who can exercise their Arms in each Shire or Burgh for the ends foresaids. The saids Estates ordaines the Colonels and Committees foresaids, and Magistrates of Burgh to reduce the whole sensible persons within their bounds, as well to Burgh as Landwart, into Regiments, foot Companies

panies and horse Troups, according to the former printed Acts of the Convention, for putting the Kingdome in a posture of defence. And ordaines that the like number of men in each Shire and Burgh, as were appointed to come out in the present expedition, be drelled and exercised in handling their Arms, every Regiment once in the moneth, every Company and Troup once in the week, at the places to be appointed by the saids Colonels and Committees, and Magistrates within Burgh. And that each Shire and Burgh shall entertain an able and expert Soldier, who shall have the care and inspection of exercising the Regiments and Companies of that Shire or Burgh. And that they take such course for inferiour Officers, as may best with least expence exercise their men. And they are hereby also required to see the Captains of each Company provided with Colours and Drummes, and the Root-Masters with Trumpets and Cornets, who are to be in readinesse upon orders from the Committee of Estates, to bring forth such number and proportion of their Regiments, with sufficient furniture, Arms, and Provision, as they shall be required. And whereas now the Armie is marched into *England*, it is therefore thought fit and expedient, concluded and ordained by the saids Estates, that these in the Northerne and remote parts of the Kingdome, who have not gone forth in this present expedition, shall presently put forth the particular numbers of horse and foot after specified, sufficiently provided with Arms, Ammunition, and Baggage horses, and all sort of furniture, according to the former printed orders, viz. Out of the Sherifdomes of Bamff, and that part of Aberdene, which is not under the Earle Marshels command, one thousand six hundred foot, and two hundred and fourty horse, whereof the Lord Gordon is Colonell: together also with one hundred and twenty horse out of the Sherifdoms of Elgine, Narne, and that part of Innernesse on this side of Nesse: And 120. horse out of the Earle of Seaforts division of Innernesse: And one hundred and twenty horse out of the Earle of Sutherlands part of Innernesse and Caithness, which are also under the command of the said Lord Gordon: And out of that part of the Sherifdome of Aberdene, in the Earle *Marischalls* division, the proportion of men layed upon the same, to come out under the said Earle their Colonell: And out of the saids Sherifdomes of Elgine, Narne, and part of Innernesse, on this side of the Nesse, one thousand five hundred foot, under the command of the Earle of Murray their Colonell. Out of the Earle of Seafort, and Lord Lovalls division of Innernesse, one thousand foot, under the command of *Thomas Mackenzie* of Pluscarden their Colonell. Out of the Earle of Sutherlands part of Innernesse and Caithness, one thousand six hundred foot, under the command of the Earle of Sutherland their Colonell: And out of the Sherifdome of Orkney, one thousand foot, under the command of
And the saids Estates ordaines the Committees of War, and Colonels within the bounds particularly above-written, to use their utmost endeavours with all possible speed, to bring forth the numbers of men, horse & foot

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foot above-written *respective*, furnished with Arms, Baggage Horses, and Ammunition Horses, and all other furniture prescribed by the former printed orders, and to make their Rendezvous at Berwick, upon the tenth day of March next, where they shall receive their further directions from the Lord Generall and Committees of Estates: As they will not be esteemed Enemies to Religion, his Majesties true honour and happinesse, and peace and safety of this Kingdome; and under the pain to be pursued before the Convention of Estates, or the ensuing Parliament, or their Committees, for their neglect or delay in this so great and important a Work.

And further the saids Estates ordaines that the half of the number formerly appointed to come forth out of the Burghs, Shires, and divisions thereof, in this present expedition, shall now be brought out of the same sufficiently provided, according to the former orders, both horse and foot with Baggage Horses, Ammunition Horses, and all other furniture, and to be in readinesse to march upon foure dayes warning: As also to be leavyed and transported upon advancement of the Taxt and Loane within each Shire, if the same be not exhausted upon the former leavyes, and where there is none of the said Loane, that they be leavyed and transported as the Committee of Estates shall direct, to be an auxiliary supply to the Army. And the saids Estates declare that in whatsoever Shire this supply shall come to a full Regiment, and where there is a Colonell already nominate, He is to go out with the said Regiment, and the remanent Officers thereof to be nominate by the Committee of the Shire with his advice. And where the supply shall not be a full Regiment, but must be adjoynd to the supply of another, or of a third Shire to compleat the Regiment; In that case the Colonell of the Shire, out of which the greatest number comes, is to go out as Colonell of the Regiment thus made up, and if there be none already nominate, he is to be chosen by the Committee of That Shire, and the Lieutenant Colonell to be chosen by the Committee of the Shire, who sends out the next proportion; and the Major by the Shire and Committee thereof, which sends out the least proportion; and where there is any difference, the same to be referred to the Committee of Estates; and the under-Officers and Captaines, by the severall Committees and Shires, who sends out the Companies with power also to the saids Committees, where there is no Colonels for putting the Shire in a posture of defence, or shall be none after the out-going of this supply, to nominate Colonels for that effect. And for the better and more expedite execution of the orders of the Convention and their Committee, and of the Committees of Warre: with power to the saids Committees of Warre, where they shall finde expedient, to make Sub-Committees in severall Presbyteries consisting of some of the said Committee of Warre, unto whom they shall adjoyne some persons best affected within the saids Presbyteries, who are to be answerable for their proceedings to the saids Committees of Warre, and they to be answerable both for their own carriage, and the deportment of the saids Sub-Committees to the
Committee

Committee of Estates. As also with power to them to call and convene before them all delinquents and transgressours of their orders, or of the orders of the Convention and Committee of Estates, and to censure and punish them by imprisonment, fining, or other arbitrary pain, as they shall finde the merit of the cause and condition of the delinquents to require. And in speciall, to fine these who have not or shall not hereafter put out their Footmen in an hundred pounds, and their Horsemen, Baggage Horses, and Ammunition Horses in foure hundred Marks, and to direct their precepts to messengers of Arms, to poind and distrenzie for the same, and to be comptable for the fines to the Committee of Estates. And because this great Work hath heretofore suffered, and may hereafter suffer no small prejudice by the unfrequent meetings of the Committees of Warre, and absence of divers of them from the same; as also by the uncertainty of their dyets: The Estates therefore ordaines the saids Committees of Warre, to appoint certain ordinary dyets upon some set dayes in the week: and at their meetings in every Session, to marke their Sederunts, and to send a note thereof, and of the ordinary dayes of their meetings and proceedings to the Committee of Estates once every moneth at least, and oftner as they shall be required, wherethrough the better correspondence may be kept betwixt them and the Committee of Estates, and the service may be more expeditly promoted: and that they fine the absence from their meetings, the Gentleman in ten shillings, and the Burgesse in five shillings sterling, *toties quoties*; and uplift the same by poinding; and make compt thereof to the said Committee of Estates: Wherein if they faile, the said Committee shall pay the double of the saids unlawes. And the Convention recommends to the Committee of Estates, to see this Act put to speedy and exact execution: With power for this effect to do every thing that may further the execution thereof, and put the Kingdom in a right and speedy posture of defence. This Act to be without prejudice of any former orders made for the price of Arms, put out in this expedition.

Arch. Primerose.

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